

**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

**2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

**APRIL 2010**

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***The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is a critical funding source for North Dakota. The anti-poverty program enables the State, Community Action Agencies (CAAs), and other partner agencies, to address unmet needs of low income individuals and families and the communities in which they live. The flexibility of CSBG provides the State and the CAAs with opportunities to collaborate with each other as well as with other community and faith based organizations and governmental entities as they work within the communities of our state. Each CAA is unique in the services they provide because they attempt to “fill the gaps” and address unmet needs in their service areas.***

## **North Dakota CSBG Entities**

### **Community Action Partnership - Minot Region**

2020 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE

Minot, ND 58701

The service area of Region II includes the counties of Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, Mountrail, Pierce, Renville and Ward.

### **Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency**

223 4<sup>th</sup> Street NE

Devils Lake, ND 58301

The service area of Region III includes the counties of Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, Ramsey, Rolette and Towner.

### **Red River Valley Community Action**

1013 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Grand Forks, ND 58203

The service area of Region IV includes the counties of Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina and Walsh.

### **Southeastern ND Community Action Agency**

3233 South University

Fargo, ND 58104

The service area of Region V includes the counties of Cass, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele and Traill.

### **Community Action Region VI**

1311 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE

Jamestown, ND 58402

The service area of Region VI includes the counties of Barnes, Dickey, Foster, Griggs, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, Stutsman and Wells.

### **Community Action Program Region VII**

2105 Lee Avenue

Bismarck, ND 58504

The service area of Region VII includes the counties of Burleigh, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sheridan and Sioux.

### **Community Action Partnership**

202 East Villard

Dickinson, ND 58601

The service area includes the Region I counties of Divide, McKenzie and Williams; and the Region VIII counties of Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Slope and Stark.

## ***Introduction***

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) represents the third generation of community-based anti-poverty programs. The origin of the program was the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 which created a vehicle for local anti-poverty initiatives through nonprofit, private corporations called community action agencies (CAAs). The CAA board of directors, which governs CAA activities, is required to consist of one-third elected public officials or their designees; one-third democratically-selected representatives of low-income persons; and the remainder of the members are to be representatives of business, industry, labor, law enforcement, religious entities, educational groups or other major groups or interests in the service area.

The Department of Commerce, Division of Community Services (DCS), is the state entity that administers the block grant in North Dakota. The state provides CSBG funding to the seven CAAs to provide services throughout the state.

In February of 2009, when President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the state CSBG programs were awarded CSBG ARRA funds. These funds were to be used to help keep people in safe and affordable housing, to help them become employable or to retain their employment, and to help those who are most affected by the economic recession.

## ***Program Purpose***

The purpose of CSBG is to provide assistance to states and communities, working through community action agencies and other neighborhood-based organizations, to reduce poverty, revitalize low-income communities and empower low-income families and individuals to become self-sufficient. The objectives of the grant are as follows:

- to strengthen community capabilities for planning and coordinating all resources that support efforts to eliminate poverty, in order to respond to local needs and conditions;
- to organize a range of services to address the needs of low-income families and individuals, so they have a major impact on the causes of poverty in the community and help families and individuals to become self-sufficient;
- to strengthen innovative and effective community-based approaches to attack the causes and effects of poverty and of community breakdown;
- to maximize the participation of low-income community residents and members of groups served, and to empower them to respond to the problems and needs in their communities;
- to broaden the resource base of programs that address the elimination of poverty; and

- to secure a more active role by private, religious, charitable and neighborhood-based organizations as well as individual citizens, and business, labor and professional groups who can influence the number and quality of opportunities and services for low-income people.

### ***Federal Administration***

CSBG is administered by the Office of Community Services (OCS) of the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The state is required to submit an application and state plan to OCS prior to receiving funding from the block grant. The Governor, or his designee, must sign the plan and assurances before the application and plan are submitted to OCS. As required by federal law, a public hearing and a legislative hearing must be held on the application and plan before being submitted to OCS. North Dakota submitted an application and plan for FY2008 and FY2009 CSBG funding in August of 2007. The legislative hearing was held on January 10, 2007, and the public hearing was held on August 6, 2007.

The CSBG ARRA grant is also administered by OCS. No public or legislative hearings were required on this grant. North Dakota submitted an application and plan on how the CSBG ARRA funds would be utilized, and that plan was approved in July 2009.

### ***State Responsibilities***

The CSBG and CSBG ARRA Programs in North Dakota are totally funded by federal funds. In addition to developing the applications and state plans on the use and distribution of CSBG and CSBG ARRA funds, the state provides OCS with an annual report which includes information on statewide activities that were performed, program outcomes, services that were provided, demographic information on the individuals and families served and information on how the funds were expended by the CAAs and the state during the grant year. For 2009, the annual report included information and statistics on both the regular FY2009 CSBG grant and the CSBG ARRA grant.

Federal law requires that each CAA must submit separate applications and work plans to the state CSBG office in order to receive CSBG and CSBG ARRA funds. The state is responsible to ensure that the services provided through the CSBG and CSBG ARRA funds received by the CAA are used to support the programs' purpose.

The state is responsible for administering the CSBG and CSBG ARRA Programs, monitoring how the funds are expended to ensure compliance with federal law, and providing or facilitating training and technical assistance needs of the funded agencies. The state partners with the CAAs and other entities providing services for low-income individuals and families to reduce poverty, revitalize low-income communities and empower low-income families and individuals to become self-sufficient. In addition, with the CSBG ARRA grant, the focus included using CSBG ARRA funds to help keep people in safe and affordable housing, to help them become employable or to retain their employment, and to help those who are most affected by the economic recession. The state also ensures that each CAA has an annual audit prepared by an independent auditing firm.

In North Dakota, eligibility for services provided through the CSBG has always been at or below the 125% of poverty level. With the passing of the ARRA, eligibility for services provided through the regular CSBG grants for FY2009 and FY2010, and the CSBG ARRA grant which ends September 30, 2010, was raised to serve individuals and families with an income at or below 200% of poverty. That change increased the number of households the CAAs were able to serve for FY2009 and FY2010. Table I below shows the difference between the poverty guidelines at 100%, 125% and 200% of poverty.

<b>Table I</b> <b>2009 Poverty Income Guidelines</b>			
<b>Household Size</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>125%</b>	<b>200%</b>
1	10,830	13,538	21,660
2	14,570	18,213	29,140
3	18,310	22,888	36,620
4	22,050	27,563	44,100
5	25,790	32,238	51,580
6	29,530	36,913	59,060
7	33,270	41,588	66,540
8	37,010	46,263	74,020
For families with more than 8 persons, for each additional person add:	3,740	4,675	7,480

### ***2009 Allocation Distribution for the regular CSBG grant***

The CSBG Act requires a minimum of 90% of the state's annual CSBG allocation to be passed through to the CAAs. To better serve the low income population, North Dakota distributed 91% of the allocation as pass-through funds to the CAAs. DCS retained 4%, instead of the allowable 5%, of the allocation for CSBG administrative expenses incurred at the state level. The remaining 5% of the allocation was applied towards special projects within the limits established by the CSBG Act. These discretionary funds were used for training and technical assistance in support of local programs, support of services and programs for low-income individuals and families, support of statewide coordination and communication among eligible entities and support of other activities consistent with the CSBG law.

North Dakota's regular CSBG allocation for 2009 can be found in Table II:

<b>TABLE II</b>		
<b>NORTH DAKOTA'S 2009 CSBG ALLOCATION</b>		
CAA Pass-through Funding	(91%)	3,104,728
State Administration	(4%)	136,472
Special Projects/Discretionary Funds	(5%)	170,589
TOTAL ALLOCATION		3,411,789

### ***State CSBG Funding***

State Administrative funds were used for DCS administrative and operational costs of the state CSBG office, including monitoring and technical assistance provided to the CAAs. The Discretionary funds were used for training of CAA staff, support of the CAAs and the ND Community Action Partnership (NDCAP), CAA demonstration projects, support of the Creating a Hunger Free North Dakota project and the needed update for the Tracker which is the client tracking system used by the CAAs. NDCAP is the statewide entity, representing all 7 of the CAAs, that enables the CAAs to work together on addressing statewide low-income needs.

### ***Distribution of Funds to Eligible Entities***

The CAAs in North Dakota rely heavily on the CSBG pass-through funds to provide services within their respective service areas. Most local governments and counties do not contribute towards CAA operations. The CAAs operate in multi-county jurisdictions, differing in size and population. DCS utilizes a formula for distributing pass-through monies among the CAAs which reflects the distribution of the low-income population based on the U.S. Census, the relative size of their service areas and a minimum base funding level for each agency. However, the CSBG law requires that a CAA shall not have its funding reduced below the proportional share of funding the entity received in the previous year unless the state determines there is cause to reduce that funding.

The funding formula, updated in 2002 with 2000 Census data, provides a base funding level equal to the greater of 28.74% of the pass-through funds divided equally among the eight regions, or a minimum of \$104,735; \$1,000 for each county the CAA serves; with the remaining pass-through funds being distributed in direct proportion to each CAA service area's share of the state's low income population.

When it is possible, the state continues to try to address CAA budget shortfall issues caused by reductions in various federal funding streams accessed by the CAAs, and the ongoing population shifts within the state, by awarding the CAAs some additional CSBG funds outside of the CSBG funding formula. In 2009 the state awarded the balance of the 2008 CSBG state discretionary funds, to those CAAs that had agency carryover from their FY2008 grant that was less than 20 percent of the FY2008 CSBG award the agency received. All of the CAAs qualified for a share of the remaining discretionary funds which were awarded based on the percentage of low-income people in their service areas.

By federal law, each CAA retains any carryover funds which were awarded but were not expended in the grant year. DCS provides spending authority for those funds in the next grant year so they can be utilized to carry out the agency's workplan. The agency carryover from 2008 was added to the agency awards for 2009 and the remaining 2008 State CSBG Discretionary funds resulting in the total CSBG funds available to the agency for use in carrying out their workplan in 2009. The CSBG financial awards to the CAAs for FY2009 were:

<b>TABLE III</b> <b>NORTH DAKOTA'S 2009 CSBG DISTRIBUTION TO CAAs</b>					
Region	Proportional Share of Pass-through	Funding Formula Award	Agency Carryover from 2008 Grant	Balance of 2008 State Disc. Funds	Total 2009 Funds Awarded
II	13.50%	419,138	45,786	7,965	472,889
III	12.03%	373,499	76,413	6,776	456,687
IV	13.26%	411,687	78,287	7,851	497,824
V	18.40%	571,270	552	12,047	583,870
VI	10.47%	325,065	68,152	5,403	398,621
VII	16.84%	522,836	67,479	10,641	600,956
VIII & I	15.50%	481,233	4,900	6,495	492,628
TOTALS	100.00%	3,104,728	341,569	57,178	3,503,475

In addition to their FY2009 CSBG grant, two of the eligible entities received some additional CSBG State Discretionary funds for their service areas. Those awards are listed in Table IV.



<b>TABLE IV</b> <b>CSBG STATE DISCRETIONARY GRANTS</b> <b>AWARDED TO THE CAAs IN 2009</b>		
Region	AMOUNT OF FUNDS AWARDED	PURPOSE OF THE DISCRETIONARY GRANT
V	\$ 498	In support of Statewide Tracker Software program
V	\$ 1,103	Start-up funds for a transportation partnership project in Fargo
VII	\$ 332	In support of Statewide Self Reliance/Self Sufficiency staff training
VII	\$ 40,000	In support of agency's Backpacks for Kids Program
TOTAL FUNDS	\$ 41,933	

Additional CSBG State Discretionary funds awarded in FY2009:

- North Dakota Community Action Partnership association: \$73,312  
Funding was provided in support of maintaining the association and staff
- North Dakota Community Action Partnership association: \$5,000  
NDCAP served as the pass-through entity for the grant to the Creating a Hunger Free ND Project for strategic planning services
- North Dakota Community Action Partnership association: \$1,920 for part of the evaluation costs of the Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Program
- National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice, University of Iowa School of Social Work: \$4,226  
Funding was for the re-certification training of 27 Community Action Agency staff as Family Development Specialists
- Certified Software Systems: \$1,700 for an update to the Statewide Tracker Software Program

***Allocation Distribution for the CSBG ARRA grant***

The CSBG ARRA required a minimum of 99% of the state's CSBG ARRA allocation to be passed through to the CAAs. There was no funding available to the state for state administrative expenses or for discretionary funding of projects. However, the remaining 1% was required to be used for benefits enrollment activities to assist individuals and families in accessing needed

programs and services. North Dakota awarded the 1%, or \$45,734, to the North Dakota Community Action Partnership (NDCAP) association. NDCAP is primarily doing outreach, education and strengthening partnerships with other entities in an effort to provide benefit enrollment activities. NDCAP is working with the CAAs to provide information statewide on benefit programs.

The allocation of the CSBG ARRA funds and the distribution to the CAAs for the period of May 2009 through September 2010, the end of the grant year, can be found in Tables V and VI:

<b>TABLE V NORTH DAKOTA'S CSBG ARRA ALLOCATION</b>		
CAA Pass-through Funding	(99%)	4,527,711
State Administration	(0%)	
Special Projects/Discretionary Funds	(0%)	
Benefits Enrollment Activities - NDCAP	(1%)	45,734
TOTAL ALLOCATION		\$4,573,445

<b>TABLE VI NORTH DAKOTA'S CSBG ARRA DISTRIBUTION TO CAAs</b>		
Region	Proportional Share of Pass-through	Funding Formula Award
II	13.50%	611,241
III	12.03%	544,684
IV	13.26%	600,374
V	18.40%	833,099
VI	10.47%	474,051
VII	16.84%	762,467
VIII & I	15.50%	701,795
TOTALS	100.00%	4,527,711

***The CAA's Use of CSBG and CSBG ARRA Funds***

CSBG and CSBG ARRA are flexible funding sources that can be used by the CAAs to respond to the needs of the poor and to address the poverty in which they live. Their approach, working with other community partners, is to:

- prioritize the needs
- address the causes of poverty
- involve and improve the community
- create opportunities
- provide a flexible, coordinated approach with other community resources to address long term client success of becoming as self sufficient as possible

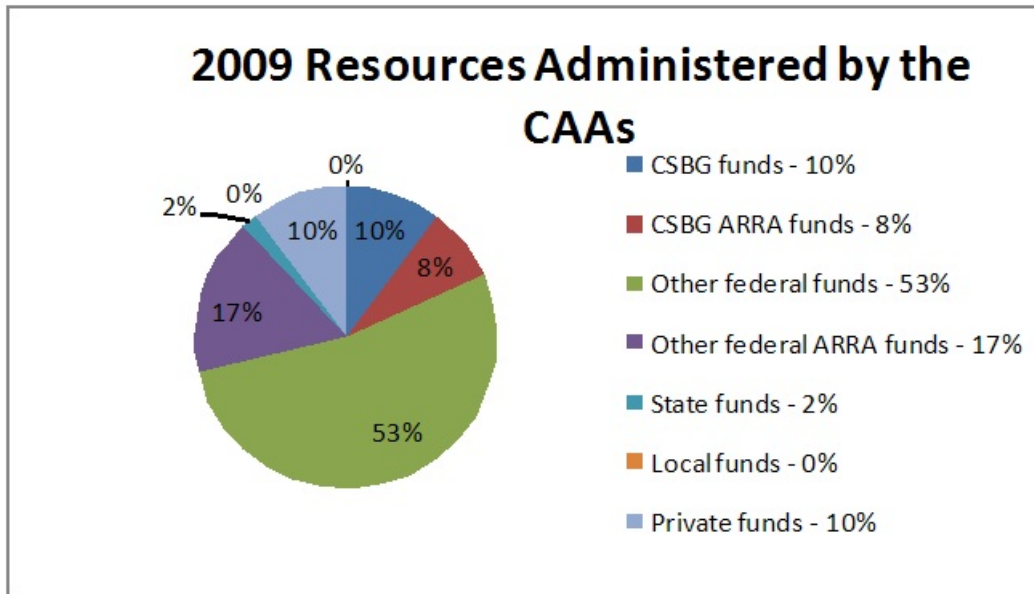
The primary categories through which CSBG services are delivered are:

- employment assistance
- education
- income management
- housing
- nutrition
- self sufficiency
- emergency assistance
- linkages
- health

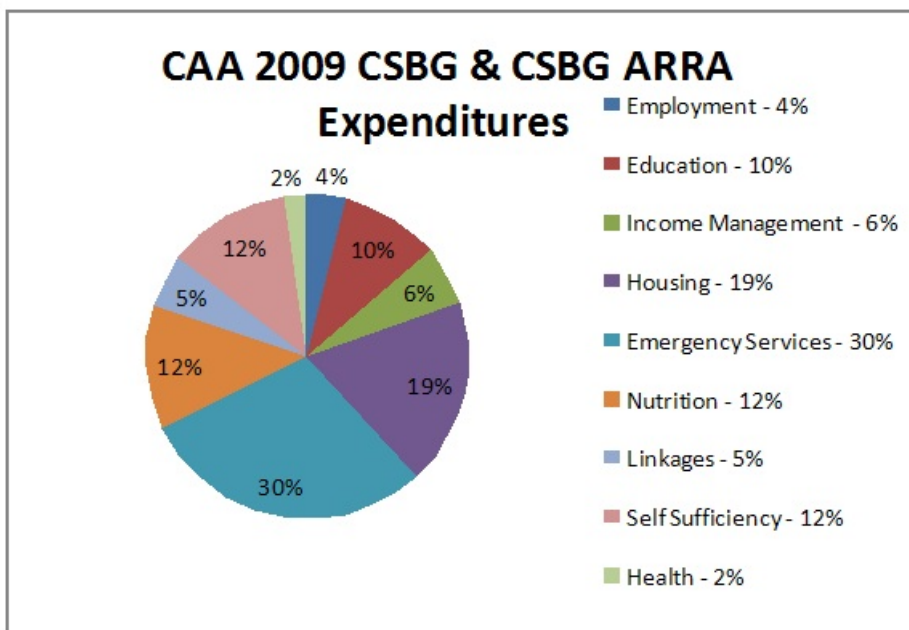
Each CAA uses CSBG and CSBG ARRA funding to provide various programs and direct services, and to collaborate with other community groups to address the needs of low-income individuals and families within these primary categories. That is accomplished through:

- direct services, including outreach, referral, money management, housing counseling, employment and other services to address basic needs and to help individuals and families become as self sufficient as they can;
- collaboration with other federal, state, local or private funds, in order to implement and administer their other low-income assistance programs including Weatherization, Head Start, emergency assistance under the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA), HOME housing programs, and surplus commodity distributions;
- help with financing the cost of organizing and/or operating emergency assistance services or facilities, such as food pantries or food banks, temporary housing and abuse shelters, energy and other emergency loan and grant funds;
- assistance with the development and implementation of new services and programs for low-income clients.

The CAAs expended \$3,028,423 in regular CSBG funds and \$2,323,824 in CSBG ARRA funds for a total of \$5,352,247 expenditures. They leveraged those funds with \$19,160,660 in regular resources from other federal, state, local and private resources and \$4,909,931 in other federal ARRA funds for a total of \$24,070,591 for the 2009 grant year. The chart below illustrates the funds leveraged by the CAAs because of the CSBG and CSBG ARRA funding they receive:



In 2009 the CAAs expended \$5,352,247 in CSBG and CSBG ARRA funds in their anti-poverty efforts. The chart below shows the CAA programs those CSBG funds supported.



## Results

Since 1997, the CAAs have utilized outcomes to track the success of their programs and clients. In 2009, states reported on national performance indicators to show national consistency within CSBG and CSBG ARRA reporting. National indicators help to demonstrate results.

The indicators were developed around the six national goals for CSBG and CSBG ARRA. Due to the availability of additional funds because of the CSBG ARRA grant, the CAAs were able to serve more people in 2009 than in 2008. The increase in clients resulted in increased numbers reported in the national performance indicators. The goals and the statewide results for a few of the national indicators for 2009 include:

Goal 1: Low-income people become more self sufficient.

- 181 of the 370 unemployed CAA clients who participated in a CAA employment initiative became employed.
- 165 of the 566 employed CAA clients who participated in a CAA employment initiative received an increase in employment income and/or benefits in 2009.
- 383 of the CAA clients obtained access to reliable transportation and/or a driver's license, 1,534 obtained safe and affordable housing and 1,200 obtained health care services for themselves or a family member in support of their efforts to gain or maintain family stability and employment.
- 788 of the 980 CAA clients who sought tax preparation assistance from the CAAs' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program received tax credits amounting to \$1,181,993.
- 267 of the 272 clients who opened or added to an Individual Development Account (IDA) or other savings account saved \$67,272 toward their goal of purchasing a home, pursuing post-secondary education or starting a business for IDA clients, or increasing their savings accounts for emergency future needs for those with savings accounts only. In 2009, 2 IDA clients used their IDA funds toward a small business, 18 used the funds for post-secondary education and 5 used their IDA funds to purchase a home.

Goal 2: The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.

- Through construction, weatherization or rehabilitation services, 2,019 housing units being preserved or improved.
- Through CAA efforts, 445 safe and affordable childcare or child development

placement opportunities were created or maintained for low-income families.

Goal 3: Low-income people own a stake in their community.

- 1,923 volunteers provided 70,105 hours of volunteer service to the 7 CAAs. Calculating those hours at the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour, those volunteer hours provided \$508,261 of in-kind support to the CAAs.

Goal 4: Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.

- The 7 CAAs worked with 1,979 different organizations, service providers, and community and faith-based groups to address poverty and the needs of low-income individuals and families.

Goal 5: Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.

- \$5,352,247 (18%) in CSBG and CSBG ARRA funds enabled the CAAs to mobilize \$24,070,591 (82%) in other resources to address poverty in the state.

Goal 6: Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments.

- 3,968 senior citizens and 2,036 individuals with disabilities who received services from the CAAs, were able to maintain an independent living situation.
- Emergency services, provided by the CAAs to address immediate basic needs of low-income clients, included:
  - 24,541 low-income individuals benefitted from emergency food assistance, including food baskets and hot meals.
  - 7,818 low-income individuals benefitted from their household receiving emergency fuel or utility vendor payments.
  - 9,971 low income individuals benefitted from their household receiving emergency rent or mortgage assistance.
- 1,053 of 1,275 parents participating in CAA services to strengthen their parenting skills, were able to learn and demonstrate their new skills.
- 608 of 853 parents participating in CAA services to learn and exhibit improved family functioning skills were successful in strengthening their family functioning skills.

### ***Demographics***

The CAAs provided services to 20,979 clients from 14,577 households in 2009. A statewide summary of the client demographics depicts the CAA clients as being poor - 78% of the families served have incomes at or below 100% of poverty, which in 2009 would have been an annual income of \$10,830 for one person or \$14,570 for a two person household. Most of the clients are female (61%). Most of the families (57%) rent, but 28% of the families own or are purchasing their homes. Of those clients who are 24 years of age and over, 24% have less than a high school education; 44% graduated from high school or have a GED; and 32% have some college or have graduated from college.

Some clients come to the agency for emergency assistance because of a major change in circumstances such as illness, divorce, death of a spouse, or loss of a job. 3,706 clients (18%) of the 20,979 clients who received services from the CAA reported that they had no income at the time they came to the CAA. A number of other clients are living on very limited incomes because of their age or a mental or physical impairment - 26% of households are receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income and 26% of CAA client households are employed, some working two or more jobs. The age of CAA clients ranges from 31% who are under 24 years of age, 33% who are 24 to 44 years of age, and 36% who are 45 years and older.

### ***Some Examples of Success Stories***

There are many CAA clients who become self sufficient or who are helped due to the assistance provided by the CAAs and their partner agencies. Some examples of success stories include:

A married couple living in a small rural community contacted the community action agency to request assistance. The husband had been injured on the job and was unable to work. He was in the process of applying for disability benefits. The wife, who is in her mid-50s, decided she needed to go back to school to gain some skills to become more employable. She had enrolled at a community and technical college which was located about 60 miles from her home. She made the trip to the school 4 days a week to complete the Administrative Secretary program. When they came to the CAA, she had been taking classes for about a year and a half, and was close to finishing, however her car broke down and they didn't have the money to have it repaired. The CAA looked at having her take some of the remaining courses on-line and would have assisted her with purchasing a computer, however since she did not have the needed computer skills, they agreed to assist her with a portion of the car repair bills. The CAA paid \$1,000 of the car repair bill through the CSBG ARRA funds, and the client paid the remaining \$84.69 of the car repair costs. Helping this family with the car repairs to enable her to continue her education will provide her with the opportunity to finish her education and find a job. The CSBG ARRA funds made it possible for the CAA to assist this family, as the agency does not usually assist with car repair bills because of limited funding. The regular CSBG grant was used to cover the agency's administrative and operational costs.



A family was referred to the CAA by the Tribal Agency in their area as the Tribal program did not have funds available to help this family with their need for services. The family was originally from the area, but had moved out of state about 20 years ago. The family had done well there with the husband and wife both working, and they had been able to build the home they lived in. However, with the failing economy, but the husband and the wife lost their jobs, and eventually their home due to foreclosure. They had no place to go and were forced to move back home where they originally grew up in order to live with family until they could find employment and a place to live. They were successful in finding employment, but their car needed a new engine and they needed the car to get to and from work. The Tribal Agency didn't have funds available for car repairs, so the family asked the CAA for help. The CAA used \$1,000 in CSBG ARRA funds toward the car repair bill, with the family paying the remaining balance of \$1,892 through a temporary loan from their family providing they agreed to pay them back when they received their income tax refund. The CAA also provided the family with food assistance through the agency food pantry and gas assistance so they could get to and from work. The CAA also provided the family with information on other agency services such as rental and deposit help that would be available to them if needed. A month after the family initially contacted the CAA, they called back to let them know they have a home to live in and had been fortunate to find employment so have earned income coming into the household. They were very appreciative for the car repair bill assistance that enabled them to again become independent. The car repair bill and part of the agency staff costs were covered through the agency CSBG ARRA grant. The administrative and operational costs of the agency were covered through their regular CSBG grant.



A single man in his mid 40s came to the CAA for help in June of 2009. He was unemployed, homeless and living in his car. The local Homeless Coalition had paid for a motel room for him for a few nights, but when they could no longer assist him, he came to the CAA. He presented himself as having a number of issues and concerns including financial, health, dental, food, housing and no income. The CAA provided him with information, referrals and services to assist him. They provided food from the CAA food pantry and referred him to the area soup kitchens, provided gas vouchers to help him search for employment, referred him to the local Free Health Clinic. The CAA referred him to Job Service North Dakota to help him find employment and provided him with a voucher to Goodwill for clothing for everyday and work/interviewing. He was able to take a shower and clean up at the Salvation Army as he continued to live in his car and had no place else to go. The CAA purchased minutes for his mobile phone so he could communicate with potential employers. He was able to work some temporary jobs through Command Labor and found another part-time job, but he continued to hope that his previous employer who had let him go because of the economy would someday be able to rehire him.

In meeting with the CAA case manager he discussed problems he had encountered with alcohol through the years, and as a result he became involved in AA meetings and found a local church where he was provided support and encouragement. The case manager also referred him to the regional human service center for counseling services. He continued to look for housing and accept temporary employment as the CAA assisted him by paying his car insurance for 3 months as he



needed it for job search and he continued to live in his car during this time. One day he notified

the CAA that his former employer wanted him to come back to work, and a landlord was willing to rent him an efficiency apartment. The CAA assisted him with a deposit and rent for the apartment, a voucher to Goodwill to help him obtain household supplies.

The client had again become employed full time, making \$12 per hour and having benefits, and he had an apartment to live in. He continued to work with the CAA case manager and began setting and achieving goals to get his medical and dental issues addressed, and to start paying on past due credit card bills and put some of his earnings into a savings account. In September of 2009, he decided he could manage on his own without the help of the CAA and expressed his appreciation to the staff and agency for the help he had received. The services provided by the CAA, including the food pantries, deposit, rent, gas vouchers, staff time, etc., were possible because of the CSBG ARRA grant. The administrative and operational costs of the agency were covered through their regular CSBG grant.

### ***Impact of the CSBG ARRA Funds***

The seven CAAs have always provided a number of services to low-income individuals and families, with some of the programs delivered statewide and some are programs offered by individual CAAs within their service area. All of the services and programs that the CAAs provide are delivered because there is a need for the program in the service area. Unmet needs or gaps in service are identified by the CAAs through their periodic statewide Needs Assessments, input from agency clients, staff and board members, and through their collaboration and partnerships with other providers of services for low-income individuals and families in their service areas. The needs of clients usually are greater than the funding available to the CAAs to address those needs. With the CSBG ARRA act, the agencies had an increase in funding to help them concentrate on addressing client and family needs in a more comprehensive approach. This method enabled them to help clients with more than a security deposit or first month's rent, or a food pantry. Staff and clients have expressed that the CSBG ARRA funds in conjunction with the regular CSBG funding often made it possible for clients to receive significant help, not just a band-aid approach, that gave the families the ability to become more independent and self sufficient due to the intervention and support from the CAA.